REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-2, 4, 13, 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,804,711 to Dugan (hereafter Dugan) in view of U.S. Patent 6,731,625 to Eastep et al. (hereafter Eastep) and further in view of U.S. Publication 2005/0021484 to Bodin et al. (hereafter Bodin). The Office Action asserts, on page 3, that Dugan teaches, at column 21, lines 24-32, an MBE indicator that differentiates an MBE service table from another service table. The Office Action also asserts, on page 3, that Dugan teaches, at column 3, lines 6-14, providing the SIBs to access the MBE table constructed in the FSLEE application. The Office Action further asserts, on page 4, that Eastep teaches, at column 28, lines 40-44 and column 38, lines 5-21, an FSLEE configuration that renders each FSLEE application unique. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dugan is directed to a resource management system that enables real-time optimization of service execution. Eastep is directed to a callback system that utilizes a hybrid telecommunication system including a switched communication network and a packet transmission network. Bodin is directed to a method for administering devices in dependence upon user metric vectors including relational metrics and location based device control.

However, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Dugan does not disclose or suggest "providing a memory based database environment (MBE) indicator to the service table, wherein the MBE indicator is a field in a record entry that differentiates an MBE service table from another service table," as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added). The "indicator" mentioned at column 21, lines 24-32 of Dugan indicates whether a SLEE is up or down, and whether a service utilization threshold has been reached by that SLEE. See column 21, lines 24-27 of Dugan. The up or down indicator and the utilization threshold application of Dugan are used to determine if a SLEE is available to accept service requests from other services. See column 21, lines 27-29 of Dugan. Such an up or down indicator is very different from an MBE indicator that differentiates an MBE service table from another service table.

Moreover, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Dugan does not disclose or suggest "providing the SIBs to access the MBE table constructed in the FSLEE application," as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added). Dugan merely mentions service independent building

blocks (SIBB) at column 3, lines 9-10. However, the SIBB mentioned in Dugan are not used to <u>access a MBE table constructed in an FSLEE application</u>.

Further, Eastep merely mentions, at column 28, lines 40-44, the word "unique" in the context of providing <u>unique customized service features</u>. Providing unique customized service features is different from having an FSLEE configuration that <u>renders each FSLEE application unique</u>. Accordingly, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Eastep does not disclose or suggest "an FSLEE configuration that renders each FSLEE application unique," as recited in claim 1. Since Dugan, Eastep, and Bodin, individually and in combination, do not disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 1, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2, 4, and 21-23 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 1 and for the additional features they recite. For example, Dugan merely mentions the phrase "time stamp," but fails to disclose or suggest, at column 22, lines 21+ or anywhere else, that the time stamp is attached to the MBE database records "after each access <u>to prevent simultaneous modifications by multiple processes</u>, wherein <u>mismatching time stamps on a record indicates that another process has modified the record</u>," as recited in claim 2 (emphasis added).

With respect to claim 13, for at least the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1, Dugan, Eastep, and Bodin, individually and in combination, do not disclose or suggest "a database configuration file providing an MBE indicator to a service table to differentiate an MBE service table from another service table ... a service independent building block (SIB) library containing a set of SIBs that access the MBE service table constructed in the FSLEE application ... an FSLEE configuration that renders each FSLEE application unique," as recited in claim 13. Therefore, claim 13 is allowable.

With respect to claim 19, for at least the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1, Dugan, Eastep, and Bodin, individually and in combination, do not disclose or suggest "an FSLEE configuration that renders each FSLEE application unique ... providing a memory based database environment (MBE) indicator to the service table, wherein the MBE indicator is a field in a record entry that differentiates an MBE service table from another service table ... providing the SIBs to access the MBE table constructed in the FSLEE application," as recited in claim 19. Therefore, claim 19 is allowable.

Claim 20 is allowable at least because it depends from allowable claim 19 and for the additional features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-2, 4, 13, 19-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 5-12, and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dugan, Eastep, and Bodin, and further in view of U.S. Patent 7,051,041 to Miller (hereafter Miller). This rejection is respectfully traversed.
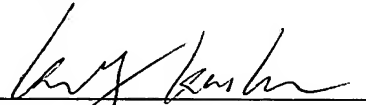
Miller is directed to a simplified relational database extension to extended database management (DBM) hash tables. However, Miller does not cure Dugan, Eastep, and Bodin's defect and does not disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 1 and 13. Therefore, claims 1 and 13 are allowable over Dugan, Eastep, Bodin, and Miller.

Claims 3 and 5-12 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 1 and for the additional features they recite. Claims 14-18 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable claim 13 and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3, 5-12, and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt examination and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desired in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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